

MINOLTA

VECTIS 300

E INSTRUCTION MANUAL



Thank you for purchasing the Minolta Vectis 300. The Vectis 300 is an easy to operate lens shutter camera from Minolta's line of Advanced Photo System™ cameras. Your camera features drop-in loading, a 24 - 70mm zoom lens, and a wide focus frame. The sleek and compact design gives the Vectis 300 a sophisticated appearance suitable for any occasion. This manual is designed to help you understand the operation of your camera and its functions. Please familiarize yourself with the names of the controls and their locations on the camera, then read this manual thoroughly.

* Advanced Photo System™ is a trademark of the five system developing companies.

Advantages of the Advanced Photo System

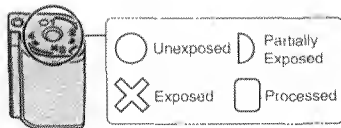
New print formats...

Classic C print, wider H print, and panorama P print formats are available with Advanced Photo System cameras.



Easier to load...

Advanced Photo System cameras use the new IX240 type film. This new film features drop-in-loading to make loading your camera simple, the first time, every time. Indicators on the cassette tell you and your camera if the film is unexposed, partially exposed, exposed, or processed.



New processing...

In addition to returning your prints in the format you selected, certified photofinishers will return your Advanced Photo System film in its original cassette with an index print. To order reprints, simply choose the images you want from the index print. No more searching through negatives to find the right frame.

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FOR PROPER AND SAFE USE

Read and understand all warnings and cautions before using this product.



WARNING

Batteries may become hot or explode due to improper use.

- Use only the batteries specified in this instruction manual.
- Do not install the batteries with the polarity (+/—) reversed.
- Do not subject batteries to fire or high temperatures.
- Do not attempt to recharge, short, or disassemble.
- Tape over lithium battery contacts before disposal. Follow local codes for battery disposal.

Use caution, accidents may occur when using this product near young children.

Keep batteries or things that could be swallowed away from young children. Contact a doctor immediately if an object is swallowed.

Immediately remove the batteries and discontinue use if...

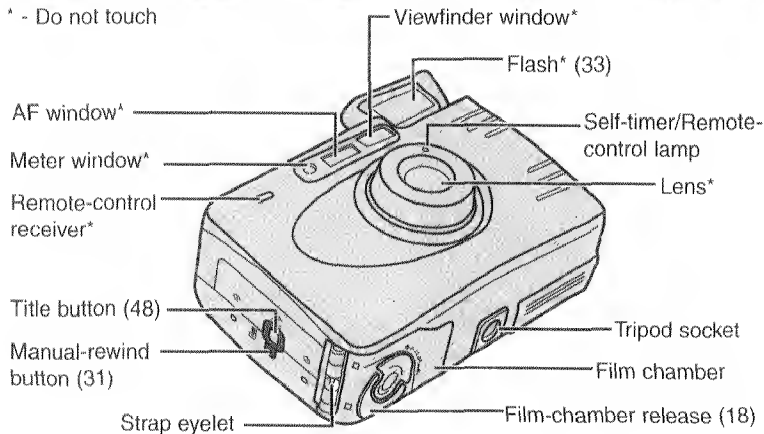
- the camera is dropped or subjected to an impact in which the interior is exposed.
- the product emits a strange smell, heat, or smoke.

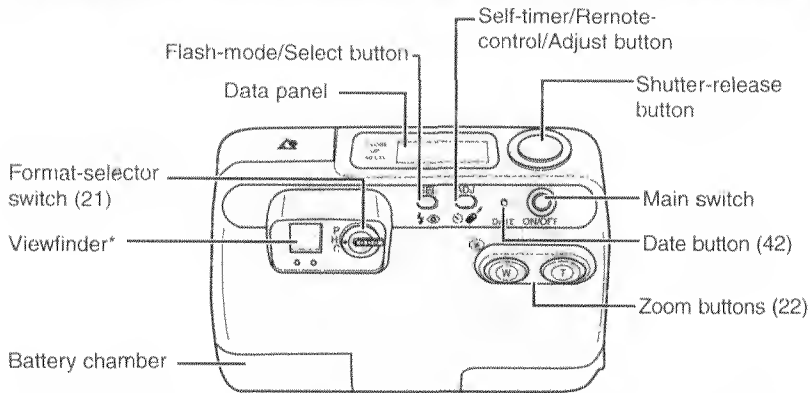
The lens retracts when the camera is turned off or Auto Power Off is activated. Touching the lens barrel while it is retracting may cause injury.

Do not disassemble. Electric shock may occur if a high voltage circuit inside the camera is touched. Take your camera to a Minolta Service Facility when repairs are required.

Camera Body

^{*} - Do not touch

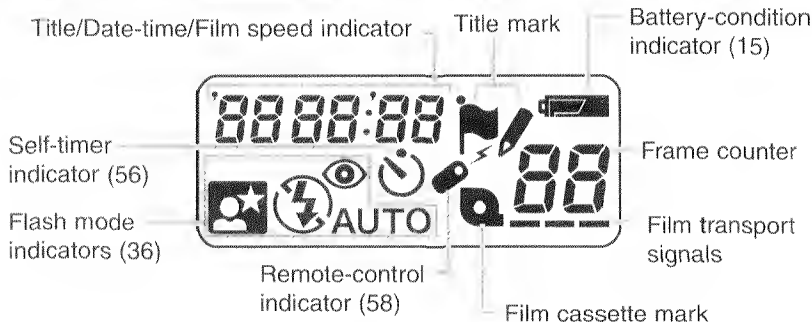




For information on specific parts, refer to the page numbers shown in parenthesis.

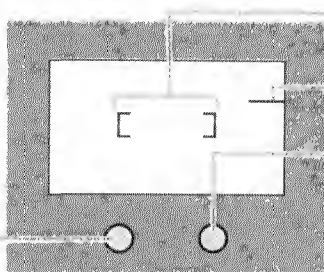
NAMES OF PARTS - CONT'D

Data Panel



- Only the necessary indicators will appear in the data panel.

Viewfinder



Focus frame

Close-framing guide (25)

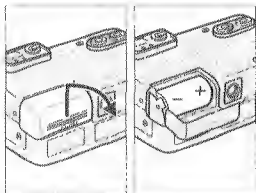
Focus lamp (green)

lamp on	focus OK
slow blinking	focus cannot be confirmed or special focus situation (p. 26)
fast blinking	too close

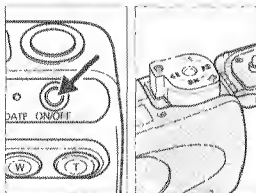
Flash lamp (orange)

on	flash charged
slow blinking	use flash or tripod
fast blinking	flash charging

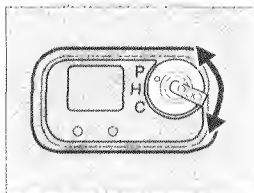
QUICK OPERATION



1. Insert the battery (p. 14).

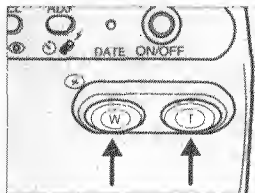


2. Turn the camera on, then insert the film (p. 16).



3. Select the print format (p. 21).

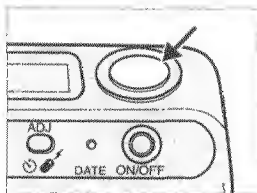




4. Frame the subject as desired (p. 22).



5. Center your subject in the focus frame (pp. 22-23).

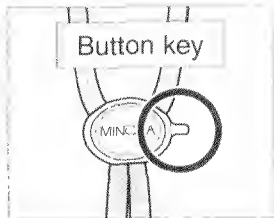
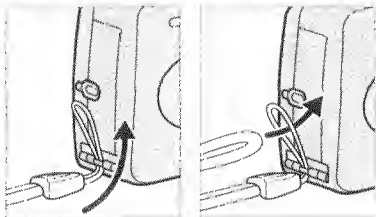


6. Press the shutter-release button all the way down to take the picture (p. 23).

BASIC OPERATION

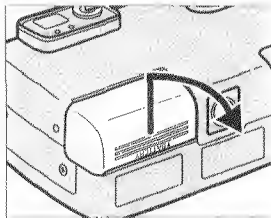
ATTACHING THE STRAP

Attach the strap as shown.



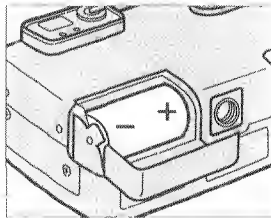
- A button key is included on the strap for pressing the Date button and Manual-rewind button.

INSTALLING THE BATTERY



Your camera uses one 3-volt CR-2 lithium battery to supply power for all camera operations.

1. Open the battery chamber as shown.



2. Insert the battery into the chamber as indicated by the + and – marks.

3. Close the battery chamber.

- After installing a new battery, reset the date and time (p. 44).

CHECKING THE BATTERY POWER

Each time the main switch is turned on, a symbol will appear in the data panel to indicate the power status of the battery.



Power is sufficient for all camera operations.



Power is sufficient, but the battery will have to be replaced soon.



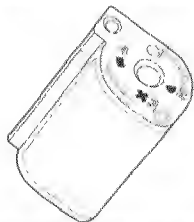
Replace the battery. The shutter will lock until the battery is replaced.

- If no display appears, replace the battery or check that it is inserted correctly.
- To save power, your camera will shut down and retract the lens if it is not operated for more than eight minutes. Press the main switch to restore power.
- Do not obstruct the lens while it is retracting.

LOADING FILM

Your camera uses IX240 type film designed for use in Advanced Photo System cameras.

- Your camera's automatic transport system loads the film, sets the film speed, and advances the film after each exposure.
- After loading, the film chamber cannot be opened until rewind has been initiated.
- DEP, Double Exposure Prevention, prevents the camera from accepting exposed film.
- This camera will only load film with the ● mark current.

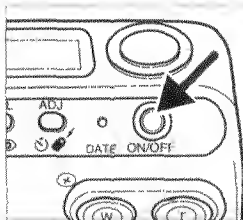


Visual Exposure Indicators

- The current VEI has a white indicator behind it.

VEI	MEANING
-----	---------

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| ○ | UNEXPOSED |
| D | PARTIALLY EXPOSED |
| × | EXPOSED |
| □ | PROCESSED |

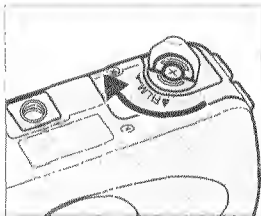


1. Press the main switch to turn the camera on.

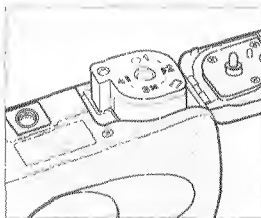
- Film can be loaded when the camera is on or off.
- If film is loaded with the camera off, all indicators in the data panel will disappear after the number of frames remaining is displayed.

Continued on following page.

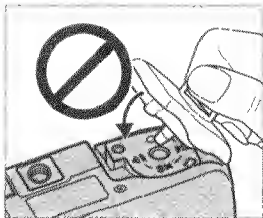
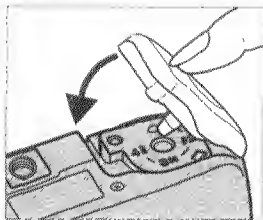
LOADING FILM - CONT'D



2. Turn the camera upside down, then turn the film-chamber release in the direction indicated. The film-chamber door will open partway.



3. Open the film-chamber door and insert the cassette into the film chamber.



4. Press the film-chamber door closed until it clicks.

- The camera will display the cassette mark and the film's ISO in the data panel, then advance the film to the first frame. The frame counter will display the number of frames remaining on the roll.
- Do not load film without an operational battery in the camera.
- **Do not hold or turn the release when closing the door.** If the release is turned, the film will not load properly; the cassette's VEI indicator will change to \otimes and the film cannot be used.

Continued on following page.

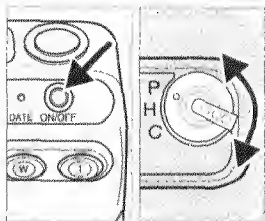
LOADING FILM - CONT'D



If 0 and the film transport signals blink in the data panel, turn the film chamber release, open the chamber, then remove the film.

- If the film's current VEI is **X**, insert a new roll of film.
- If a partially exposed roll of film was loaded into this camera, the VEI has been changed from **D** to **X**.
- If a processed roll of film was loaded into this camera, the VEI has been changed from **B** to **X**.
- If the film's current VEI is **●**, remove the film, remove and reinsert the battery, then reload the film. If the film will not load, contact the nearest authorized Minolta Service Facility.

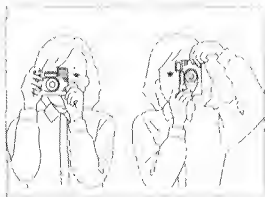
FULL-AUTO OPERATION



1. Press the main switch to turn the camera on.

- The camera is set for fully-automatic operation and the flash will fire automatically when necessary.

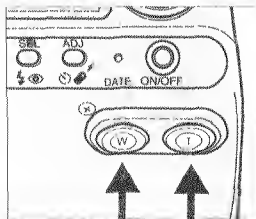
2. Select the print format. The viewfinder will change to match your selection.



Hold the camera steady, making sure your fingers do not cover the flash. If you are taking a vertically framed picture, turn the camera so the flash is on top.

Continued on following page.

FULL-AUTO OPERATION - CONT'D

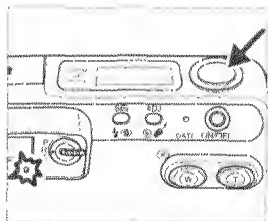


3. Looking through the viewfinder, frame the subject as desired.
Press the W zoom button to zoom out.
Press the T zoom button to zoom in.



4. Center your subject in the focus frame, then press the shutter-release button partway down.

- In low-light conditions, the AF illuminator (flash) will fire to determine focus distance (unless ∞ is selected).
- If the orange flash lamp blinks quickly, the flash is not charged.
- Press the shutter-release button with a slow steady squeeze - never a quick jab.



5. When the green focus lamp glows, press the shutter-release button all-the-way down to take the picture.

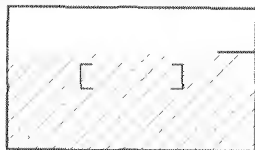
- Turn the camera off after use.
- Do not hold or obstruct the lens barrel.

FOR CLOSER SUBJECTS

The green focus-lamp will blink rapidly and the shutter will lock when you are closer than the focus distance indicated below.

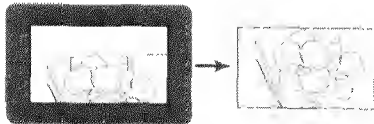
Focal Length	24mm	70mm	
Print Format	All	C or H	P
Focus Distance	0.4m - ∞ (1.3 ft. - ∞)	0.4m - ∞ (1.3 ft. - ∞)	0.8m - ∞ (2.6 ft. - ∞)

- If the camera can not determine the focus distance, the green focus-lamp will blink slowly and the picture may not be in focus.

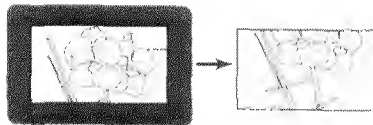


When your subject is closer than 1m (3.3 ft.) (1.7m (5.6 ft.) in Panorama format), compose your picture within the close-framing guide using focus hold if necessary (see p. 28).

Correct



Not Correct



SPECIAL FOCUSING SITUATIONS

Some scenes or subjects, like the examples below, are difficult for the autofocus system to lock on to. When the focus will not lock, focus hold (p. 28) on another object the same distance from you as your main subject, recompose, then press the shutter-release button all-the-way down to take the picture.



When a very bright or low contrast area fills the focus frame.

The green focus lamp will blink slowly to warn you that focus may not be accurate.



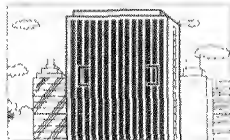
When your subject is near a very bright object or area.

The green focus lamp may glow, but the focus may not be accurate.



When two subjects overlap in the focus frame.

The green focus lamp may glow, but the focus may not be accurate.



When a subject composed of alternating light and dark lines fills the focus frame.

The green focus lamp will blink slowly to warn you that focus may not be accurate.

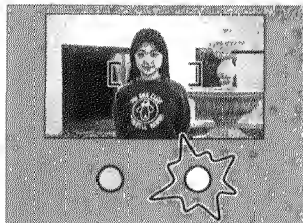
FOCUS HOLD



Subjects outside the focus frame may not be in focus. Use focus hold to ensure accurate focusing.



1. Center your subject in the focus frame.



2. Press and hold the shutter-release button partway down until the green focus lamp glows.



3. Without lifting your finger, recompose the picture and press the shutter-release button all-the-way down to take the picture.


- Lift your finger from the shutter-release button to cancel focus hold.

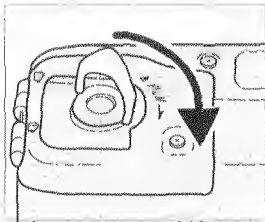
REWINDING THE FILM

Your camera automatically rewinds the film into the cassette after the last exposure.




1. Wait for the film to completely rewind into the cassette.


- The frame counter will count down during rewind.
- 0 will appear in the frame counter and  will blink when the film is rewound.



2. Turn the camera upside-down and turn the film-chamber release to open the film-chamber.

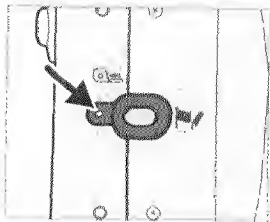
3. Open the film-chamber and remove the film.

- The film's VEI indicator will be .

- Do not open the film chamber until the motor stops, 0 appears and  blinks in the data panel.

MANUAL REWIND

Use manual rewind to rewind the film before the roll is finished.



1. Gently press the manual rewind button using the button key.
2. Follow steps 1- 3 from automatic rewind.

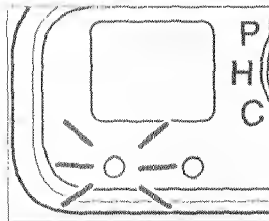


For best results, take your film to a Certified Advanced Photo System photofinisher displaying this symbol (see p. 64).

USING THE BUILT-IN FLASH

When you turn the camera on, the built-in flash is set to autoflash or autoflash with red-eye reduction, whichever mode was used last. The flash will fire automatically when necessary.

FLASH LAMP








With the shutter-release button pressed partway down:

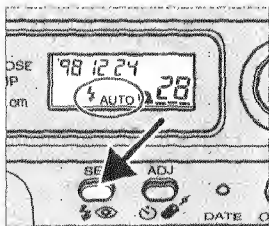
- If the orange flash lamp blinks rapidly, the flash is charging. Wait until it glows steadily, then take the picture.
- If the orange flash lamp blinks slowly, your scene is too dark for a hand-held picture. Use the flash or place your camera on a tripod.

FLASH RANGE

The range of the built-in flash depends on the film speed and the focal length you are using. To ensure proper exposure, make sure your subject is positioned within the flash range.

	Film speed ISO 100	Film speed ISO 200	Film speed ISO 400
Focal length 24mm	0.4 – 3.1m (1.3 – 10.2 ft.)	0.4 – 4.4m (1.3 – 14.4 ft.)	0.4 – 6.2m (1.3 – 20.3 ft.)
Focal length 70mm	0.4 – 1.8m (1.3 – 5.9 ft.)	0.4 – 2.6m (1.3 – 8.5 ft.)	0.4 – 3.7m (1.3 – 12.1 ft.)

Besides autoflash mode , autoflash with red-eye reduction , manual fill-flash , night portrait , or flash cancel  can be selected.

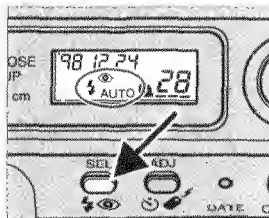



Press the flash mode button until the desired indicator appears in the data panel.

- Flash modes remain selected after the picture is taken.

RED-EYE REDUCTION

Use the built-in flash's red-eye reduction mode to reduce the red-eye effect when photographing people or animals at night or in low light situations. The flash will fire a few short bursts before the main flash burst to reduce the red-eye effect.

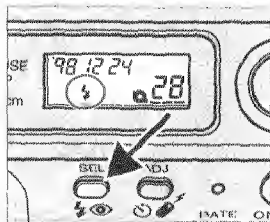


Press the flash mode button until  AUTO appears in the data panel.

- Warn your subject that the flash will fire a few short bursts just before the picture is taken.
- The flash mode remains selected after you take the picture.

MANUAL FILL FLASH

The flash will fire when the shutter is released regardless of lighting. Use manual fill flash to reduce harsh shadows on your subject's face.



Press the flash mode button until ⚡ appears in the data panel.

- The flash mode remains selected after you take the picture.